DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 075 320 SO 005 688

TITLE	Country Education Profiles: Algeria.
INSTITUTION	International Bureau of Education, Geneva (Switzerland).
PUB DATE	Jun 72
NOTE	12p.
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.65 HC-$3.29
DESCRIPTORS	Adult Education; *Comparative Education; Demography; *Educational Administration; *Educational Policy; Educational Practice; *Educational Programs; Elementary Education; Foreign Countries; General Education; Higher Education; Secondary Education; Statistical Data; Teacher Education
IDENTIFIERS	*Algeria; UNESCO

ABSTRACT

One of a series of profiles prepared by the Cooperative Educational Abstracting Service, this brief outline provides basic background information on educational principles, system of administration, structure and organization, curricula, and teacher training in Algeria. Statistics provided by the Unesco Office of Statistics show enrollment at all levels, from primary to adult; number of teachers for each level; population by age groups; public expenditure on education; educational indicators by subject (level enrollment ratios, maximum age specific enrollment ratio, enrollment in natural and applied sciences at the third level, public expenditure on education as a percentage of budget and as a percentage of the GNP, and the adult illiteracy rate). A diagram of the organization of the Ministry of Education is included. For a description on the general nature of the Country Education Profiles, and for a list of related documents see SO 005 686. (JMB)

ED 075320

International Bureau of Education
Palais Wilson, Geneva, Switzerland

United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Organization

Co-operative Educational Abstracting Service (CEAS)

SP005688

Country Education Profiles

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
EDUCATION & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION
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Date of issue: June 1972

Country: ALGERIA

General principles

Algeria's current education policy is defined in the four-year plan for 1970-1973, the objectives of which are: the democratization, Arabization and scientific and technical orientation of education, and adult training and literacy work with a view to enlightened participation by the people in choosing from the country's various development options. This policy is aimed at enrolling all six-year-old children in 1973, the intake into primary schools at that date being estimated at 2,600,000. At the lower secondary school level, the plan provides for 375,000 pupils and, at the upper level, 70,000 pupils; the Algerian Government considers that secondary education should make room for still more pupils, since it constitutes a genuine reserve of the future technicians and trained personnel necessary to a rapidly expanding economy.

For this purpose emphasis is laid on school building, decentralized in accordance with the measures adopted (Order No. 68-9 of 23 January 1968 on building programmes for elementary primary education).

In addition, social policy aims at eliminating socio-economic inequality by granting of scholarships and supplying school outfits and textbooks. For example, the State establishes elementary boarding schools and awards scholarships to the children of nomads. As regards vocational training, the plan provides for the establishment of institutes of technology offering a two-year training course, with specialization according to the entrant's level and ability.

As part of the teacher training programme, a policy is pursued of providing professional staff to ensure the proper functioning of the system.

System of administration

The educational structure was defined by Decree no. 65.208 of 12 August 1965. The Minister of Education, assisted by a body of advisers, is responsible for drawing up plans for educational reform, for educational administration and for establishing syllabuses.

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The Ministry of Education is responsible for education at all levels. Vocational training is the responsibility of the different ministries concerned; for example, regional schools of agriculture and agricultural practical training centres come under the Ministry of Agriculture, and institutes of medical science and schools for the training of medical assistants come under the Ministry of Health. The Ministry of the Interior is responsible for the national college of administration (Ecole Nationale d'Administration), the Ministry of Youth and Sport runs special schools for the training of educators, young people's training centres and centres for the welfare of children and adolescents.

Alongside the Algerian educational administrative system there is that of the "Office universitaire et cultural français" (OUFCA); under a Franco-Algerian agreement, some primary and secondary schools follow curricula taught in France.

Private education, in the hands of a few Catholic missions, comes under the supervision of the Ministry of Education.

The administrative services of the Ministry of Education consist basically of the Minister's departmental staff and a general secretariat headed by a director-general. A body of secondary school inspectors-general forms part of this secretariat.

Five directorates come under the general secretariat: administration; general education; higher education; planning; cultural affairs.

At regional level, there is an inspectorate in each department, headed by a departmental inspector, which is divided into primary inspection units. Each department also has a technical and agricultural school inspector and inspectors for out-of-school education.

Temporary or permanent bodies having their headquarters at the Ministry of Education are responsible for providing liaison with the central administrative services, for example, the commissions on administrative or educational reform.

Structure and organization

The education system comprises primary, general and technical secondary education, higher education and teacher training. Primary education is compulsory (Article 18 of the Constitution of 10 September 1963). The duration of schooling is six to

eight years. The entrance age is six; on completion of the primary school course, pupils who are eligible for admission pass on to secondary school; other pupils sit for the elementary primary education certificate, and take the entrance examination for an agricultural or technical school. A distinction should be made between primary instruction given in French, which becomes bilingual from the third year onwards, and primary instruction given in Arabic.

General secondary education leads on to higher education and teacher training. It is provided in lycées and general secondary schools. It consists of two stages: the lower, lasting four years, leads to the general education certificate (BEG); the upper, lasting three years, leads to the secondary school-leaving certificate. Vocational education is provided in technical schools (CETs) and lycées; the former award a vocational proficiency certificate (CAP) after a three-year course, the latter a technical certificate or a technical secondary school-leaving certificate.

Higher education is provided in four faculties and in higher education establishments (the State higher professional schools and institutes). The length of the courses varies according to the type of education. The secondary school-leaving certificate is required for admission. Under a Franco-Algerian agreement a Council for Scientific Research is responsible for the administration of certain institutes. A reform of the structure of higher education is in progress.

The fiscal year begins in January; the school year runs from September to June.

Curricula

Curricula are being reformed with a view to the Algerianization and Arabization of education. The subjects chiefly affected are ethics and civics, history and geography. The end sought is knowledge of the local environment, and consideration of the traditional values of the civilization of the Maghreb and the Arab world. An Algerian secondary school-leaving certificate and a national language teacher's diploma have been introduced (El Ahlya = the Arabic secondary school-leaving certificate). The first two years of elementary school have been completely Arabized, and ten hours of teaching in Arabic have been introduced from the 3rd to the 7th years. The Arabization of arithmetic in the 3rd year goes back to September 1969. Schools and lycées have been opened which are completely

Arabized, and all examinations include a compulsory paper in Arabic. Priority is given to the training of teachers who either work entirely in Arabic or are bilingual for teaching purposes.

The teacher training institute has introduced specifically Algerian teaching methods. It has distributed school textbooks, documentation on language teaching methods, material for teaching arithmetic, teachers' manuals, booklets, cards and directives, and sets of slides for teaching geography.

There are also a national agricultural training centre and a Bureau for documentation and information on university and school establishments, and vocational training. (DISUP).

Teacher training

Since 12 October 1970 teacher training has been provided by technological institutes. It lasts eleven consecutive months, and leads to the primary teacher's diploma. Prospective pupils must hold the general education certificate and pass a competitive examination (CREI: "concours de recrutement des élèves instructeurs"). Secondary school teachers are trained, concurrently with their university arts or science courses, at the higher teacher training college established in Algiers in 1964.

For the in-service training of teachers there are also centres such as the cultural and vocational training centres (CFCP), referesher course centers, decentralized training for teaching assistants, schools for organizers and teachers' days.

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STATISTICS

ALGERIA

(Source : Unesco Office of Statistics)

Estimated population 1970 ..... : 14 010 000

Area (Km2) ..... : 2 381 741

Inhabitants per Km2 ..... : 6

1. ENROLMENT

Level of education	1965	1969	1970
Pre-primary			
MF	-	-	-
F	-	-	-
First level			
MF	1 357 608	1 689 023	1 851 416
F	520 405	630 870	700 924
Second level			
MF	131 948	194 597	236 884
F	40 099	54 149	66 370
Third level			
MF	8 053	12 929	...
F	1 631	3 022	...
Special education			
MF	-	...	...
F	-	...	...
Adult education			
MF	...	1/ 22 020	2/ 71 144
F	...	...	...

1/ *1967 : Including Literacy courses with an enrolment of 5 000 (F 100).*

2/ *1968 : Including literacy courses with an enrolment of 50 000 of which 30 000 follow television courses.*

2. TEACHERS

Level of education	1965	1969	1970
Pre-primary			
MF	-	-	-
F	-	-	-
First level			
MF	1/ 30 672	38 819	43 656
F	...	9 549	11 564
Second level			
MF	...	9 914	11 487
F	...	...	...
Third level			
MF	...	...	...
F	...	...	...
Special education			
MF	-	...	...
F	-	...	...
Adult education			
MF	...	...	...
F	...	...	...

1/ *Public education only.*

3. POPULATION

In thousands

Population by age groups	1965		1970	
	Total	Female	Total	Female
Total population	11 923	5 933	14 012	6 971
0 - 4	2 326	1 145	2 662	1 310
5 - 14	3 223	1 571	3 945	1 930
15 - 19	1 184	590	1 414	694
20 - 24	975	495	1 160	579

4. PUBLIC EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION 1/

Currency : Dinar

In thousands

Item	1965	1968	1969
Exchange rate in US $	0.2025	0.2025	0.2025
Public expenditure on education			
Total	583 552	892 850	1 299 640
Recurring	434 385	745 000	851 131
Capital	149 167	147 850	448 509

1/ *Ministry of Education only.*

5. EDUCATIONAL INDICATORS BY SUBJECT

Subject	1965	1967	1968
Level enrolment ratios			
First and second levels combined (age group 6-18)	39	40	41
First level (age group 6-11)	68	68	70
Second level (age group 12-18)	7	8	9
Third level (age group.20-24)	0.8	0.9	1.0

Subject	1963	1967
Maximum age specific enrolment ratio	-	
a) attending first level (age 9)	49.4	
(age 7)		53.9
b) attending second level (age 14)	...	7.9
(including general education only)		
Note : For ratios of all ages see Unesco Statistical Yearbook		

5. EDUCATIONAL INDICATORS BY SUBJECT
(Cont'd)

Subject	1965	1968	1969
Education at the third level : Natural and applied sciences +/ as a percentage of total enrolment	45.8	46.0	50.7
Third level graduates per 10 000 inhabitants aged 20 - 24	...	...	...

+/ Natural and applied sciences (i.e. Natural Sciences, Engineering, Medical Science and Agriculture).

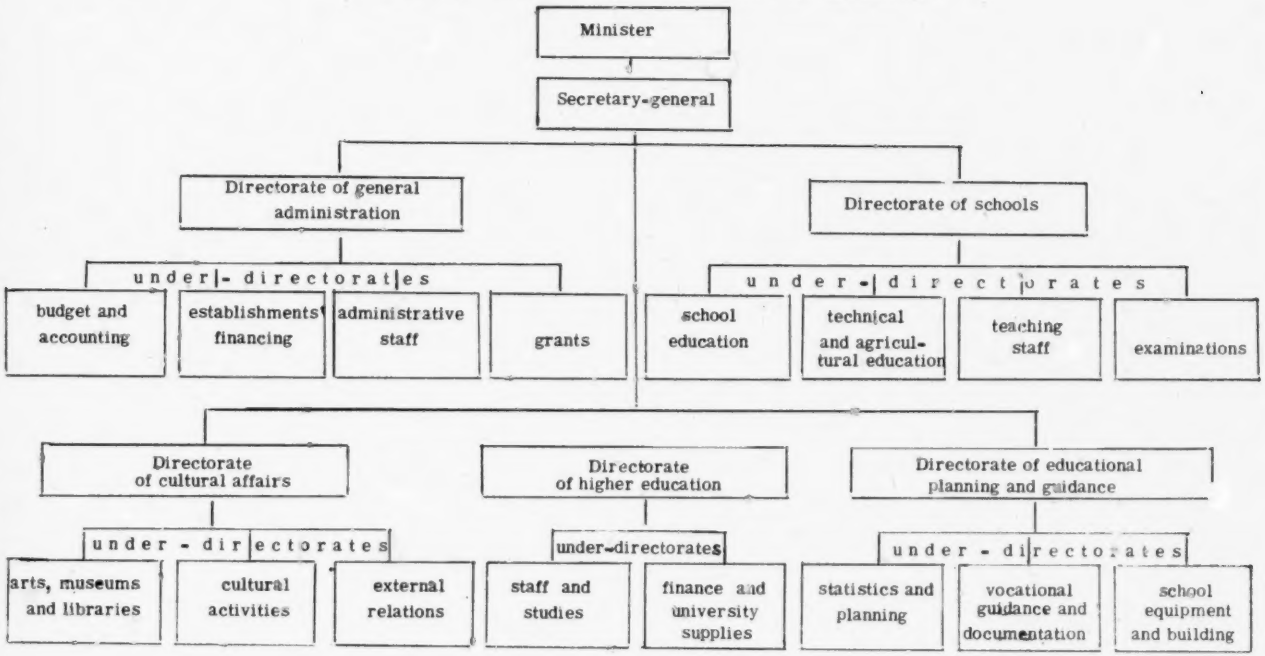
Subject	1965	1968	1969
Public expenditure on education			
as a % of Budget	17.0	18.7	17.6
as a % of GDP	...	...	...
Public and private expenditure on education as a % of GNP	...	...	...

5. EDUCATIONAL INDICATORS BY SUBJECT
(Cont'd)

Subject	1/ 1954	1966
Adult illiteracy rate/ (population 15 years and over)		
Total	81.0 (92.3)	81.2
Male	77.4 (87.7)	70.1
Female	84.5 (96.6)	92.0

1/ *Data in brackets refer to Moslem population only.*

DIAGRAM OF ORGANIZATION OF MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



STRUCTURE OF STATE EDUCATION